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Vice Versa

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Document Version

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Publication date:

2016

[Link to publication in University of Groningen/UMCG research database](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Bates, T. E. (2016). *Vice Versa: Situationism and character pessimism*. [Thesis fully internal (DIV), University of Groningen]. Rijksuniversiteit Groningen.

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STELLINGEN BEHORENDE BIJ HET PROEFSCHRIFT

Vice Versa

Situationism and Character Pessimism

1. Evidence in support of the existence of personality traits is not necessarily evidence in support of the existence of character traits (Chapter 3).
2. Evidence against the widespread possession of global *virtues* does not warrant the claim that global *traits* are not widely possessed (Chapter 4).
3. The observed behaviour in many classic experiments that are often taken to support the situationist challenge to global traits is plausibly caused, at least to a significant extent, by robust vices (Chapter 4).
4. Evidence that ‘other-oriented attention’ can be easily distracted is not evidence against the possession of some global vices, such as selfishness and laziness; these vices do not require consistent other-oriented attention (Chapter 5).
5. Evidence that shows people do not respond to certain moral reasons for action does not show that people are not receptive to those reasons, as they may simply not be motivated to act for those reasons (Chapter 5).
6. Drawing conclusions too quickly from single behavioural experiments with shocking results damages moral psychology; the field needs reports of successful and unsuccessful attempts to replicate such experiments in order to maintain its credibility.

Groningen, 4 January 2016
Thomas Edward Bates